



"A Celebration of Recovery" for Mental Health Awareness Month

IN RECOVERY: THE MAKING OF MENTAL HEALTH POLICY

(VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY PRESS)

For hundreds of years, the conventional wisdom was that people diagnosed with severe mental illness were hopeless cases, destined to suffer a course of inevitable deterioration. Recently, however, that view has been challenged, and promoting recovery from mental illness has become the new goal of mental health systems around the world. Traditionally, recovery has been defined as symptom abatement or return to a normal state of health, but as consumers, activists, mental health professionals, and policymakers work toward the development of "recovery-oriented" mental health systems, it is apparent that recovery has many other meanings as well. In Recovery is about those many meanings.

In Recovery is also the story of Wisconsin's efforts to create a recovery-oriented mental health system. This book draws upon interviews and several years of fieldwork with the government-appointed groups charged with making Wisconsin's recovery policy to explore the policy development and implementation processes and to describe the specific strategies the groups used to promote a key principle: recovery is possible.

Nora Jacobson

Nora Jacobson is a research scientist in the Health Systems Research and Consulting Unit at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health and an asst. professor at the University of Toronto. Dr. Jacobson holds a Ph.D. from the Faculty of Social and Behavioral Sciences at the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health. She completed an NIMH-sponsored postdoctoral fellowship in the Mental Health Services Research Training Program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. An interpretive social scientist, Dr. Jacobson uses qualitative methods to study social constructions of health and illness that affect health policy and services delivery.

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An ongoing effort by Wisconsin citizens to educate and increase awareness
about mental illnesses as real and common diseases, that are treatable.

Celebrate Recovery. Stop stigma.



it's part of all our lives